

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 00982 01 OF 02 181825Z
ACTION AF-10

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TRSE-00 SSO-00 /070 W
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O R 181754Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4927
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL STUTTGART
SECDEF WASHDC
CINC EUR VAHINGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00982

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AEMR, CASC, OTRA, US, UG, GW
SUBJECT: UGANDA: US-FRG CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 3166 (NOTAL); (B) BONN 00630 (NOTAL);
(C) STATE 000898 (NOTAL)

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: STATE DEPARTMENT TEAM
JOINED BY LT. COL. EDWARD METZGER (EUCOM J-5) AND
BONN EMBOFF MOATS HAD THREE SESSIONS WITH FRG COUNTER-
PARTS JANUARY 17 AND 18. FRG SIDE WAS REPRESENTED BY
HELMUT MUELLER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICA (OPENING
SESSION ONLY), LEONHARD KREMER, FONOFF EAST AND
SOUTHERN AFRIAN OFFICE CHIEF, KARL VON STENGLIN, UGANDA DESK
OFFICER, AND FORMER FRG AMBASSADOR TO KAMPALA ELLERKMANN
(WHO WAS FRG SIDE'S BASIC SUBSTANTIVE RESOURCE PERSON).
SESSIONS INCLUDED US PRESENTATION ON US-UGANDAN
POLICY, REVIEW OF US CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR UGANDA BASED
ON WORKING PAPER PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED FRG (REFTEL C), AND
REVIEW OF OUTLINE EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION PLAN FOR
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PAGE 02 BONN 00982 01 OF 02 181825Z

AMERICAN RESIDENTS OF UGANDA. DISCUSSIONS RESULTED IN
MUTUAL AGREEMENT ON ALL MAJOR POINTS, AGREEMENT BY FRG
TO IMPROVEMENTS IN US-FRG COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES
RELATING TO UGANDA, AND AGREEMENT THAT JANUARY 19-20
MEETINGS IN NAIROBI WOULD BE DEVOTED TO AS DETAILED
DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION PLANS
FOR UGANDA AS FEASIBLE. END SUMMARY.

1. U.S. POLICY: FRG SIDE HAD NO MAJOR QUESTIONS ON U.S. POLICY PRESENTATION, BASED ON JUST-COMPLETED DEPARTMENT REVIEW AND DECISIONS REGARDING UGANN POLICY. /FRG SIDE INDICATED THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE NO FUNMENTAL CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN US AND FRG THINKING ON UGANDA, ALTHOUGH FRG CEDDDITIONAL PROBLEM OF COORDINATION WITHIN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (INCLUDING IMPACT ON LOME CONVENTION) OF HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES WHICH FRG REPRESENTATIVES SAIDWERE SCHEDULED TO BE DISCUSSED WITHIN COMMUNITY OVER NEXT FEW MONTHS. FRG SIDE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT US EMBARGO OF UGANDAN COFFEE WOULD NOT HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON POLICIES OR STAY-ING POWER OF AMIN REGIME. FRG SIDE ALSO INDICATED THAT THERE IS AT PRESENT LITTLE PRESSURE ON FRG GOVERNMENT TO RESTRICT ITS OWN TRADE CONTACTS WITH UGANDA, AND UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES FRG GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT SUPPORT SIMILAR PROPOSALS. FRG SIDE NOTED THAT USG PUBLIC STATEMENTS RE UGANDA CAN BE AS IMPORTANT AS POLICY ACTIONS IN TERMS OF IMPACT ON AMIN, WHO REPORTEDLY REGULARLY LISTENS TO WESTERN BROADCASTS INCLUDING VOA. FRG BELIEVES AMIN CAN DISTINGUISH BETWEEN STATEMENTS BY CONGRESS, DEPARTMENT AND WHITE HOUSE, HOWEVER, AND ATTRIBUTES IMPORTANCE TO SUCH STATEMENTS IN ASCENDING ORDER OF PRIORITY.

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PAGE 03 BONN 00982 01 OF 02 181825Z

2. CONTINGENCY PLAN: FRG SIDE NOTED AT OUTSET THAT FRG WOULD ASSIST U.S. IN CRISIS SITUATIONS INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE UP TO POINT WHERE FRG ACTIVITIES WOULD ENDANGER GERMAN NATIONALS IN UGANDA OR GERMAN EMBASSY/AMBASSADOR AND BASIC FRG INTERESTS IN UGANDA. POINT-BY-POINT REVIEW OF OUTLINE CONTINGENCY PLAN (REFTEL C) RESULTED IN FRG AGREEMENT THAT ALL STEPS/ACTIVITIES ENVISIONED IN PLAN FELL WITHIN ABOVE BOUNDARIES AND WOULD NOT PRESENT BASIC PROBLEMS FOR THE GERMANS. INFORMAL ASSESSMENT BY FRG SIDE OF EFFECTIVENESS OF STEPS ENVISAGED BY U.S. IN CRISIS SITUATION WAS THAT ACCESSION BY U.S. TONY DEMANDS BY AMIN TO SEND A U.S. ENVOY (HO COULD EXPECT TO BE HUMILIATED BY AMIN) WAS LIKELY TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE IN SECURING RELEASE/SAFETY OF THREATENED AMERICANS. OF OTHER POSSIBLE MEASURES, FRG ESTIMATED THATUSEOF TRUSTED EMISSARIES (MOBUTU, ETC.) WOULD BE NEXT MOST EFFECTIVE, FOLLOWED BY ECONOMIC PRESSURE (DENIAL OF SPARE PARTS FOR AIRCRAFT, ETC.) AND, FAR LESS EFFECTIVE; MILITARY THREATS (FRG SIDE DID AGREE THAT U.S. MILITARY ASSETS ALREADY PRESENT IN REGION AT TIME OF A CRISIS MIGHT, HOWEVER, VE A SOBERING EFFECT ON AMIN). GERMANS ALSO

ADVISED THAT ALL E AND E PREPARATIONS BE DONE AS

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PAGE 01 BONN 00982 02 OF 02 181823Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00982

INCONSPICUOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, AND ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
BE AVOIDED EXCEPT AS LAST RESORT, LEST DANGERS TO
AMERICANS BE INCREASED.

3. GERMANS AGREED THAT US-FRG COORDINATION OF
REPORTING/ANALYSIS ON UGANDA, PARTICULARLY DURING
POSSIBLE CRISIS SITUATION, WOULD BE GREATLY FACILITATED
BY DESIGNATION OF FRG EMBOFF IN WASHINGTON AS SPECIFIC
CONTACT POINT WITH DEPARTMENT ON THIS SUBJECT. GERMANS
UNDERTOOK TO MAKE INITIAL DESIGNATION OF FRG EMBOFF
NOW IN WASHINGTON WITH RECENT SERVICE IN UGANDA AND FRG
FOREIGN OFFICE IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS. FRG ALSO AGREED TO REVISE
COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES NOW IN EFFECT BETWEEN FRG
AND US TO ALLOW DIRECT RELAY OF MESSAGES VIA FRG EMBASSY
WASHINGTON IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS. IN ORDER MAINTAIN
POLICY CONTROL, FRG FOREIGN OFFICE BONN WOULD HAVE TO UTHORIZE
ANY ACTION BY FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA IN RESPONSE TO US REQUESTS OR
ANY RELEASE TO DEPARTMENT BY FRG EMBASSY WASHINGTON OF FRG EMBASSY
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PAGE 02 BONN 00982 02 OF 02 181823Z

KAMPALA REPORTS. FRG SIDE ALSO AGREED TO SPEED UP PLANS ALREADY IN PROGRESS TO UPGRADE BACK-UP FACILITIES OF FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA TO ENABLE RADIO TELETYPE

COMMUNICATION WITH FRG EMBASSY NAIROBI WHEN REGULAR LAND-LINE COMMUNICATIONS NOT FUNCTIONING.

4. EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION: FRG SIDE AGREED TO BASIC OUTLINE SUBMITTED BY U.S. TEAM (WHICH WILL BE HAND-CARRIED TO NAIROBI) OF E AND E PLAN FOR AMERICAN RESIDENTS OF U.S., SUBJECT TO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN U.S. REPRESENTATIVES AND FRG TEAM FROM KAMPALA IN NAIROBI. U.S. AND FRG ALSO AGREED THAT PLAN FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS SHOULD BE CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH STANDING FRG PLAN FOR PROTECTION OF ITS CITIZENS IN SIMILAR EMERGENCY. FRG SIDE COMMENTED THAT COORDINATED EVACUATION OF NATIONALS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES SUCH AS IN EVENT OF BREAKDOWN OF LAW AND ORDER WOULD BE EASIER TO ACCOMPLISH IF ONGOING U.S. EFFORTS TO REDUCE SIZE OF AMERICAN COMMUNITY WERE SUCCESSFUL (RESULTING IN OPTIMAL LEVEL OF PERHAPS 100 AMERICANS, I.E., ROUGHLY EQUAL TO GERMAN COMMUNITY). UNDER CONTINGENCY OF BREAKDOWN OF LAW AND ORDER, FRG NOTED THAT ITS INITIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO ITS CITIZENS WOULD PROBABLY BE TO TAKE REFUGE IN RESIDENCES OR OTHER DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AND WAIT OUT UNREST. U.S. SIDE AGREED THAT THIS ALTERNATIVE SHOULD BE ADDED INTO U.S. PLAN.

5. FOR AMEMBASSY NAIROBI: U.S. TEAM TOLD FRG SIDE THAT U.S. DELEGATION TO NAIROBI WOULD BE PREPARED TO COMMENCE DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG REPRESENTATIVES AS OF

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PAGE 03 BONN 00982 02 OF 02 181823Z

EARLY AFTERNOON JANUARY 19, SUBJECT TO THIS BEING AGREEABLE TO EMBASSY NAIROBI. SUGGEST EMBASSY MAKE DIRECT CONTACT WITH FRG REPRESENTATIVES TO DETERMINE FINAL SCHEDULE. STOESEL.

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